

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-10 and 12-18 are pending in the application.

Claims 1 and 12 have been amended as suggested by the Examiner. The Examiner's suggestions are sincerely appreciated.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 10 and 12-18 stand rejected as anticipated by Davis. Claims 3, 4, 6, 8, and 9 are rejected under section 103 as unpatentable over Davis in view of Marin.

Claims 1 and 18

Claim 1 has been amended to recite that "the core pin [is] sized such that the core pin obstructs the opening at the distal end of the introducer so that the channel is the only flow path from the distal end of the introducer." This clearly distinguishes over Davis, which has numerous flow paths (via lumen 22 and ports 18 and 20).

Similar reasoning applies to claim 18.

Claim 12

Claim 12 has been amended to recite "a side hole near the opening at the distal end of the introducer portion; and a pressure sensor, in fluid communication via the side hole." An embodiment of these features is shown in Figure 9 of the present application.

Davis does not disclose or suggest such features. In Davis, lumen 22 between member 40 and main body 24 is not in fluid communication with pressure sensor 76 (instead lumen 28 is in fluid communication with sensor 76).

Claims 16 and 17

Claim 16 recites a "core pin having a portion of reduced diameter such that a channel is formed between an inner wall portion of the introducer portion and an outer portion of the

core pin . . . and a pressure sensor, in fluid communication with the entrance via the channel.” An embodiment of these features is shown in Figure 8 of the present application, having such a channel 26. Davis does not disclose or suggest such features. In Davis, lumen 22 between member 40 and main body 24 is not in fluid communication with pressure sensor 76 (instead lumen 28 is in fluid communication with sensor 76).

Similar reasoning applies to claim 17 (an embodiment of which is shown in Figure 9 of the present application).

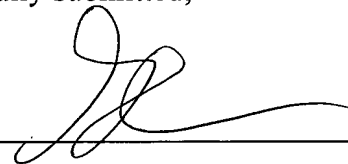
Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

By



Glenn Law
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 34,371

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FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5426
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399